

### 5E - Effective Employee Wellness Programs - Gallagher





# **An Ounce of Prevention** is Worth a Pound of Cure



# Lifestyle is the single largest factor for illness and premature death.

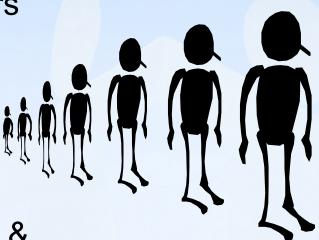




#### **The Problem**

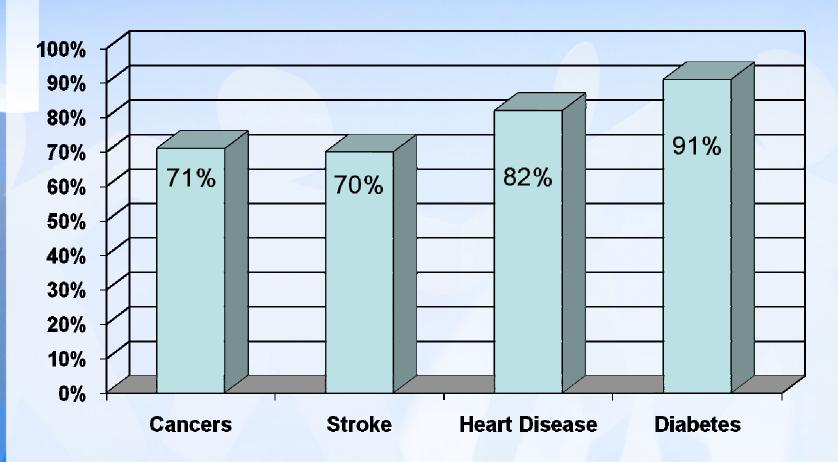


- Modifiable Health Risk Factors
  - Lack of physical activity
  - Poor nutrition habits
  - Tobacco use
  - Alcohol consumption
- 80% of heart disease, stroke, & type 2 diabetes cases
- 40% of cancer cases



## **Chronic Diseases Caused by Poor Lifestyle**





Sources: Stampfer, 2000; Platz, 2000; Hu, 2001





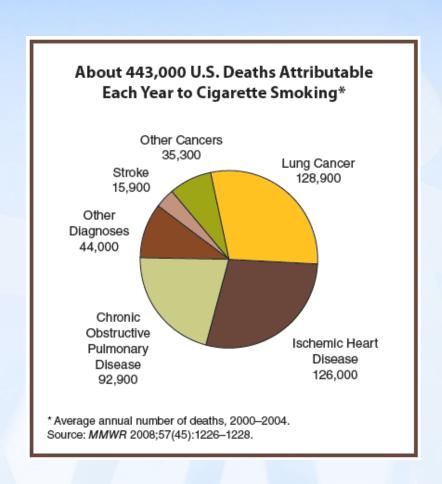
#### The Crisis: Lifestyle

- Americans get 34.7% of their calories from fat.
- 30% of the American adult population gets the recommended amount of physical activity
- 29% of the population stops taking prescribed medications before they run out
- More than ½ of Americans with chronic disease do not follow physician lifestyle recommendations
- 20.8% of Americans smoke tobacco

#### The Crisis – Tobacco-Related Illness



- 20.8% of Americans smoke
- Leading cause of preventable death
  - 1 in 5 deaths
    attributed to tobacco
    (443,000
    deaths/year)
- For each death, 20
  people suffer from
  serious tobacco-related
  illness









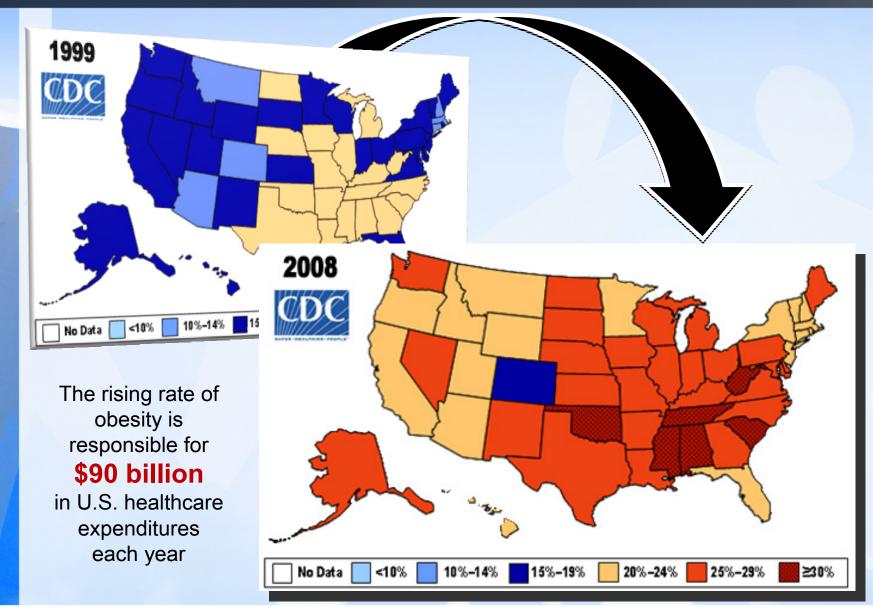
#### What it Means to Average Employer . . .

- The average smoker costs
  - \$1,623 per year in excess medical expenses
  - \$3,391 per year in excess medical expenses and productivity losses
- Twice as likely for hospital admissions
- 50% more likely to be absent
  - 5.5 more work days per year



### **The Crisis - Obesity**









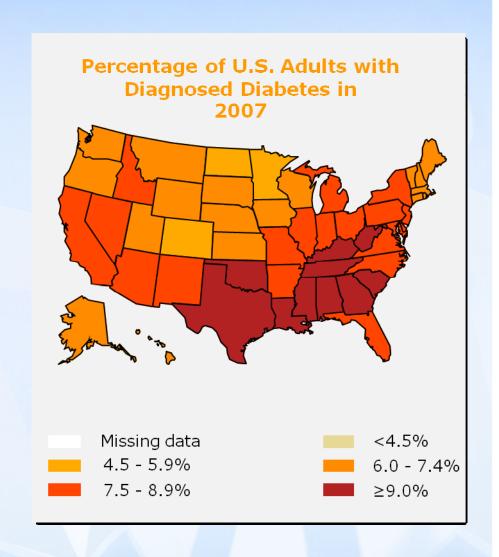
#### What it Means to the Average Employer . . .

- Medical costs are 77% higher for obese person
- Obesity-related disabilities cost employers upwards of \$8,720 per claimant per year
- A BMI (Body Mass Index) > 27 (overweight) equals an average production loss of 5.79 hours/week
- An obese person averages 7 or more absences per year

### Wellness Target: Diabetes



- 10.7% of Americans over the age of 20 have diabetes
- Diabetes-associated complications
  - Heart disease and stroke
  - High blood pressure
  - Kidney disease
  - Amputations
  - Blindness







#### What it Means to Average Employer . . .

- The average diabetic costs \$11,744 in direct healthcare costs per year
- Cost of healthcare for persons with diabetes is 5 times that of healthy people
- Rates of heart disease increase 2 to 4 times in people with diabetes
- Diabetes is the leading cause in kidney failure

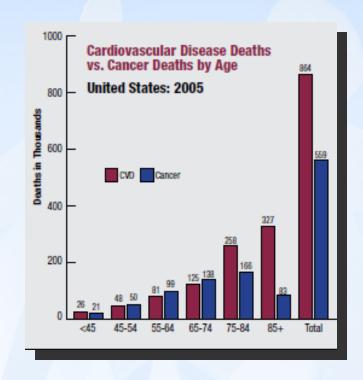


<sup>\*</sup> Estimate cost based upon Centers for Disease Control and Prevention statistics and not actual Texas Molecular data.

#### The Crisis: Cardiovascular Conditions



- 1 in 3 adults has high blood pressure
  - 78.7% of adults with high BP are unaware of their condition
- 42% of adults have high cholesterol
- Cardiovascular disease accounts for 34.5% of all deaths
- In 2006, there were 4,378,000 visits to the emergency room with the diagnosis of cardiovascular disease





#### **The Impact: Chronic Disease**

#### What it Means to Average Employer . . .

Estimated Direct and Indirect Costs (in Billions of Dollars) of CVD and Stroke: United States: 2009

	Heart Diseases*	Coronary Heart Disease	Stroke	Hypertensive Disease	Heart Failure	Total Cardiovascular Disease
Direct costs						
Hospital	\$106.3	\$54.6	\$20.2	\$8.2	\$20.1	\$150.1
Nursing home	\$23.4	\$12.3	\$16.2	\$4.8	\$4.5	\$48.2
Physicians/other professionals	\$23.8	\$13.4	\$3.7	\$13.4	\$2.4	\$46.4
Drugs/other						
Medical durables	\$22.1	\$10.3	\$1.4	\$25.4	\$3.3	\$52.3
Home health care	\$7.4	\$2.2	\$4.4	\$2.4	\$3.4	\$16.8
Total expenditures	\$183.0	\$92.8	\$45.9	\$54.2	\$33.7	\$313.8
Indirect costs						
Lost productivity/morbidity	\$24.0	\$10.6	\$7.0	\$8.4		\$39.1
Lost productivity/mortality	\$97.6	\$62.0	\$16.0	\$10.8	\$3.5*	\$122.4
Grand totals	\$304.6	\$165.4	\$68.9	\$73.4	\$37.2	\$475.3

Ellipses (...) Indicate data not available.

Lost future earnings of persons who will die in 2009, discounted at 3%.

All estimates prepared by Thomas Thom, NHLBI.

#### References

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<sup>&</sup>quot;This category includes CHD, HF, part of hypertensive disease, cardiac dysrhythmias, rheumatic heart disease, cardiomycpathy, pulmonary heart disease, and other or III-defined "heart" diseases. Totals do not add up because of rounding and overlap.

#### **Costs Follow Risks**



- A 19-year study of 10,245 men at Cooper Clinic showed that the average cost for "fit" men was 53% less than "unfit" men\*
- The average cost of an overweight female is 22.6% more than a healthy weight female\*\*

\*Medical & Science in Sports & Exercise, 2005

\*\*Journal of American Medical Association, 2005

It pays to take care of your health!



### What Is Wrong With This Picture?

- We spend 97% of available healthcare dollars for restoration/illness, and...
- We spend 3% of the available healthcare dollars on prevention

#### BUT...

- 72% of disease is preventable
- 50% of cancers are avoidable
- 50% of accidents are avoidable



#### **Potential Return**



#### Reducing one health risk can...

- Reduce absenteeism
- Improve productivity
- Improve moral
- Reduce healthcare costs
- Decrease healthcare expenditures
- Decrease absenteeism-STD/LTD
- Reduce turnover rate
- Increase loyalty





### Questions?







### Thank you for attending this presentation!

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